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FOR THE LIBRARY

A \$40,000 library building cannot be maintained for less than \$4,000 a year. Andrew Carnegie specifically stipulates that a city must appropriate 10 per cent of the cost of the building for maintenance. It has been suggested a less pretentious building be erected, thereby reducing the cost of maintenance. However, to make an appreciable reduction in the cost of maintenance, the \$40,000 would practically have to be reduced one-half. A building this cheap would be out of harmony with the spirit of Columbia.

Building a new library would be the opening wedge for an era of civic building. It would be a nucleus for a greater Columbia. It would instill into Columbians a desire for a new city hall, which all admit we need—and one in harmony, too, with the spirit of a greater Columbia.

The staunchest advocates of universal military training seem to be those who wouldn't have to train.

The United States should not enter the war to crush Germany, to Russianize Constantinople, to change the spelling of Elsass-Lothringen, to obtain Trieste for Italy nor to advance British navalism.

At least \$5 is spent for alcohol and tobacco in the United States for every dollar for education. Will Columbia refuse a library?

HIS MAJESTY—THE INFANT

Not satisfied with his every-day occupation of the heart with his throaty gurgle and the wave of his chubby hands, His Majesty, the Infant, must have his week.

This must be a week in which his physical charms must be carefully measured, displayed and recorded. It is also a week when competent ones tell of the proper modes of caring for His Kingship.

Baby Week has become a firmly established institution in America. Every mother has a just pride in her infant, and, since he typifies her life's greatest interest, she is deeply concerned in his welfare.

Not every mother knows of the diseases which beset her child and of the proper care of his body and of his food. This is the function of Baby Week. It is the training school for mothers. The scoring brings greater pride to the maternal and paternal heart.

Babies are citizens in the making, and upon their early physical welfare depends their capacity for achievement and service in later years. Hence Baby Week is not only personal and local but of interest to the state and the nation.

We must do honor and obeisance to the members of America's one regal class. They must be cared for. Then further the annual week of devotion—Baby Week.

We must not judge too hastily. Where one German-American is revealed in a conspiracy, thousands are ready to take up arms for defense of our nation.

Eastern newspapers are claiming now that the West is not awake to the international situation, but many calm, deliberate and far-seeing men have been accused of being asleep in critical times, and later the country was mighty glad they seemed that way. Possibly you remember how the Eastern editors showed their knowledge of the West about election time last fall.

A dispatch from the East says New York is forming a regiment of bell-boys. They will hold up the enemy all right.

Yes—spring has cub, ad the weather is jus' grad.

A REAL DEMOCRACY FOR RUSSIA

M. U. Professor Reviews the Cause and Probable Effects of Remarkable Revolution in the Former Czar's Empire

(This article was written for the Missouriian by Dr. R. J. Kerner of the department of history of the University.)

History records few events as remarkable or as far reaching in their future effects as the glorious and bloodless revolution in Russia. Its cause was the glaring inefficiency of the autocracy on the battlefield and at home. It had failed signally in prosecuting the war in proportion to Russia's unlimited resources and had left the soldiers to starve or be a prey to the enemy. At home, in spite of the fact that it began the war with the good will of the people and a two-thirds majority in the Duma made up of conservatives and reactionaries, it failed to satisfy even them to pass urgent political, economic and social legislation. Since the bureaucrats or the appointive members of the government were unable to handle the war successfully the members of the Duma and the Council of the Empire, the elective members of the government endeavored to take a hand. At first, they vented their rage upon individuals, such as General Sukhomlinov, who was responsible for the shortage of munitions and hence the great Russian retreat. They had him tried and imprisoned. But, as they grasped the power, to their amazement they discovered that the bureaucracy was under the influence of a German or pro-German cabal or camarilla. In their efforts to ferret out this influence, the conservative Duma turned progressive under the leadership of Rodzianko, Guchkov and Miliukov.

The Pro-German cabal which controlled the court and which was subsidized by the German Balts and the German government was led by the mysterious monk Rasputin, who it will be remembered held immense power over the Czar by virtue of his reported healing of the heir to the throne. It is said that the Czar believed that the monk had "cast divine protection over the heir." The Pro-German prime minister Stuermer, who had held office since February, 1916, fell at the end of the year and was succeeded for two weeks by the conservative bureaucrat Doldadin. Treppov, a nationalist, who tried hard to improve things, but Rasputin grew bold and threatened to withdraw the divine power from the sickly Czarovich. He caused the Czar to prorogue the Duma December 29. That same day the monk was murdered in Prince Iusupov's palace after a debauch. The Czar, still further frightened by the camarilla, gave way to the appointment of a thoroughly reactionary ministry headed by the puppet, Prince Golitsin, and engineered by the Pro-German Protopopov, who was the real prime minister. When the Duma met on February 27, it declined to have confidence in the government. The latter's inept handling of the food problem led to mutinies in the cities, while the Duma repeated in ever-menacing tones its demands for a responsible ministry, chosen from its midst.

The Czar, weak as always, gave in to the cabal and resorted to force. But the army revolted and together with the Duma and the hungry populace overthrew the government and proscribed the bureaucrats.

The Duma which, it will be remembered, slowly changed in political opinion from a conservative body to a liberal and progressive legislature as a result of its experience with the government, demanded and secured the abdication of the Czar and his son. But the workmen, only very slightly represented in the Duma owing to the

modified electoral law of 1907, demanded that, until a constitutional assembly based on universal suffrage, decided what should be the form of government, no permanent ruler be appointed. Thus the present cabinet is only provisional until such a time.

The proposed regent, Grand Duke Michael, is a brother of the Czar and a liberal. He should not be confused with Grand Duke Nicholas, the commander in the Caucasus, who is the second cousin of the Czar. The manifesto of rights which the provisional government has issued is virtually the combined program of the coalition of the progressives made in the Duma a year and a half ago. It guarantees Russia a most liberal government. The future of Russia today is in the hands of a conservative Duma made progressive in the stress of war, a socialistic urban population, and anarchistic peasants. The army made up of the three elements, but largely of the last two, holds the ultimate power. It may be asked whether the Russians are capable of a democracy and of constitutional government. By temperament the Slavs are democrats and should the present combination which is in full power fulfill its obligations it may tide over the crisis. By tradition, the Slavs have always had self-government in communities and recently through the zemstvos. But is has an immense task. The Russians started the war under an absolute government, and just when the other powers of the Alliance are groping blindly toward dictatorship, have plunged headlong into a provisional government consisting of a numerous cabinet resting on a divided political and military support. Should it be unable to satisfy the artisans and peasants, its almost untenable position would necessarily break at once.

On the other hand, the possibilities which lie before a future stable, but liberal, government of Russia are such as to intoxicate the idealist. What of the great reforms in education, of secularization of the lands, of the rights of oppressed nationalities, of freer economic and social life? Will the war be prosecuted more efficiently? At least the Russian will be given a chance to own up to his faults, and should the present government maintain itself, we may say

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yes. What will be the influence of the war on the Prussian German and the rest? To be left behind even the Russian muzhik will not be an enviable lot for the Prussian commoner who still has about one-thousandth of the political voting power of the rich man. And, finally, with us it may mean more trade, new and liberal treaties, the return of many Russian Jews, perhaps even alliance.

Whatever may happen temporarily in Russia, the cause of democracy will have been furthered and the great Empire will never be able to go back to the days of a Rasputin or a Sukhomlinov.

Glee Club Sings at the Union

The University Glee Club gave an informal concert Friday night at the Union Building in the second of a series of five entertainments, which are to be given at the Union. "Mid the Hills of Old Missouri" was the opening selection. This was followed by "Mrs. Winslow's Soothing Syrup," "City Choir" and "Little Orphan Annie."

Dean Edwards to Meeting in Indiana.

The annual convention of the national board of education of the Disciples of Christ will be held April 5 and 6 in Indianapolis, Ind. Dean G. D. Edwards of the Bible College, who is recording secretary of the board, will attend.

TO TEACH AT LINDENWOOD

Miss Marguerite McGowan Will Offer Journalism Course at the College.

Miss Marguerite McGowan, a graduate of the School of Journalism in 1915, will be at the head of the new Journalism department which is to

be opened at Lindenwood College, St. Charles, next September. Lindenwood will be the first women's college to offer courses in Journalism. Miss McGowan is a member of the Delta Gamma sorority and Theta Sigma Phi, honorary national journalism sorority.

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